Asian Development Bank loan to India

361. SHRI NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has granted loan to India for the year 1990-91; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) On 29th March, 1990, ADB has approved a loan of US $129 million for the modernization of Port and Ship Repair Facilities at Bombay and construction of Deep Water Port facilities at Kakinada. The loan agreement has not yet been signed.

Vacancies of High Court Judges

362. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: SHRI GUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts of High Court Judges are lying vacant at present;

(b) what are the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts; and

(c) by when the above posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) As on 1-8-1990, against the sanctioned strength of 470 Judges and Additional Judges, there were 27 vacancies in various High Courts of the Country. The process of consultation with the constitutional authorities for making appointments against these vacancies is on, but it is not possible to indicate any date by which they will be filled up.

Centre-State rift regarding Paradeep Steel Project

363. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the 'Times of India' of the 3rd May, 1990 captioned 'Paradeep Steel Project caught in Centre-State rift';

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether South Korean team of Pohang Steel Corporation has presented its final report to Government;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (e) No formal proposal for a steel project at Paradeep has been received by Government. There is no question of a Centre-State rift in this regard.

Restrictions **on** foreign travel of council of ministers to save foreign exchange

364. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to save foreign exchange by curtailing the foreign travel budget of the Council of Ministers in the current year;

(b) if so, to what extent foreign exchange is likely to be saved thereby;

(c) what percentage of expenditure out of the foreign travel budget has already been incurred during the current financial year; and

(d) what specific steps have been taken